

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

U.S. Application of:

Noritoshi MARUCHI, Keiko TOYODA, Tohru  
MURAKAMI, Akiyoshi JOHDAI, Koji  
HIGASHIKAWA and Kunihiro KANOU  
(**AMENDED HEREIN TO Akiyoshi JOHDAI,  
Koji HIGASHIKAWA**)

For:

BINDING MEMBER REMOVING APPARATUS,  
AUTOMATIC DOCUMENT FEEDER, SHEET  
PROCESSING APPARATUS, AND IMAGE  
FORMING APPARATUS

Confirmation No.:

4359

U.S. Serial No.:

10/632,427

Filed:

August 1, 2003

Group Art Unit:

3653

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in  
an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O.  
Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

March 11, 2004

Date of Deposit

DOUGLAS A. SORENSEN

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered  
Representative

Signature

March 11, 2004

Date of Signature

**PETITION TO CHANGE INVENTORSHIP**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.48**

Due to the cancellation of claims 1-32 and 46-53 by a Preliminary Amendment  
filed on August 1, 2003, the inventorship of the above identified application has changed.

03/16/2004 SDENB01 00000048 181260 10632427

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The remaining claims 33-45 are the invention of Akiyoshi Johdai and Koji Higashikawa. Accordingly, Noritoshi Maruchi, Keiko Toyoda, Tohru Murakami, and Kunihiro Kanou should be removed as inventors from this application.

Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.48, Applicants hereby petition for approval of a change in inventorship in the above-referenced application by removing Noritoshi Maruchi, Keiko Toyoda, Tohru Murakami, and Kunihiro Kanou as inventors, leaving Akiyoshi Johdai and Koji Higashikawa as the inventors.

The petition in the amount of \$130.00 is to be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. A duplicate copy is enclosed.

If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Request for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Request for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed. Any fee required for such Request for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than issue fee, and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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March 11, 2004